Daily Report

Latin America

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FBIS-LAT-91-063 *2 April 1991*

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Cuba

Castro Interview With French Journalists Noted

PA0204044091 Havana International Service in Spanish 0043 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Lazaro Fernandez report from the "What the Foreign Press Has To Say" program]

[Text] Revolutions are not carried out so that people may dream. Revolutions are carried out so that the people may change society in their country and, if possible, in the world. We have dreamed that the world is going to change. It has not happened, but Cuba remains a source of hope, social justice, and international solidarity. Cuba still has a grand mission: to defend the revolution, to safeguard it, to consolidate it, and to make it advance.

This statement was Cuban President Fidel Castro's answer to the first question asked by French writer (Jean Eden Jalil) and French journalist (Pierre Andre Boutan).

The magazine PARIS MATCH has published excerpts of the interview, which took place recently. The following are passages from that publication. Let us continue with Fidel Castro's answer:

The U.S. dream is still an imperialist dream, a dream about dominating and exploiting the world. A terrible cultural and moral crisis would be necessary for the U.S. dream to be the winner. I do not think this will ever happen, Fidel Castro said. He added: Part of the socialist camp may have crumbled, but this does not mean that man's hopes to make progress, to achieve development, and to enjoy this world's goods have crumbled.

If one were to believe the international media, the interviewers noted, Fidel Castro and Cuba are collapsing.

Fidel Castro answered: Many would like to see that happen. The reactionary forces cannot forgive Cuba for being courageous, audacious, and firm. They used to say that Cuba was a Soviet satellite, and now they criticize us for marching on. We are being criticized because we are capable of defending the revolution under the most difficult circumstances. It is a historic fact that most of the world media is in favor of capitalism and hostile toward revolutionary ideas. It was said over a year ago that the Cuban revolution could not last more than 15 days. Yet, today we witnessed the enthusiasm there is in the places we visited, at the places occupied by workers, students, peasants.

The media does not want to acknowledge our merits because it is dominated by the North Americans. There are sadder situations: In Latin American countries polls have shown that the children know more about Superman and other U.S. comic strip heroes than about those who fought for their country's independence. Mexican children who were asked who Juarez was, said they did not know him, but they all know who Superman is. This is a terrible kind of cultural aggression that our country does not suffer from.

The French interviewers asked the Cuban president: Why can you not allow an opposition newspaper?

Fidel Castro answered: I must frankly say no. I do not want to beat around the bush. A newspaper opposed to the revolution would defend the U.S. line and ideas, and we are not going to facilitate that. The United States bans everything that is Cuban: our paintings, our oleographs, our films. Besides, Fidel Castro added, Cuba will never yield to the United States. The United States has never blockaded Africa in spite of apartheid; or Pinochet, in spite of thousands of missing people; or the Argentine military government, in spite of tens of thousands of missing people; or South Korea, where for years the students have been repressed. None of that happens in our small country. So why does the United States maintain its blockade?

We have won large social battles. Long ago, we have achieved the social programs promoted by the United Nations such as education, health, and employment. The reason why we have to endure the embargo is because we have defended our sovereignty, we have safeguarded our wealth, and we have protected the fruit of our labor. We will tolerate no pressure from a country that has imposed a blockade on us. Let them maintain the blockade for 100 years. We will not surrender or yield as the result of it.

Finally, when asked by the French journalists whether he would be prepared to work for another 20 years, President Fidel Castro said: I am prepared to struggle for as long as I feel capable to struggle. I do not struggle because I am attached to power, but because I feel I have obligations. I will never give up the struggle. One of our revolutionary fighters of the 1920's once said: Revolutionaries rest only after death. I know that some people who were not revolutionaries were able to rest only after they died. De Gaulle and Churchill rested only after death.

If I should feel incapable at any given time, I think that I would know what to do: My duty would be to stop struggling, if I were not able to struggle; but I cannot even imagine such a time.

This is how Fidel Castro closed his interview with the French writers. Excerpts of that interview were published by PARIS MATCH.

Congolese President: Troop Withdrawal 'Important'

FL0104215591 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2034 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Text] Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso has stressed Cuba's solidarity with his country, where Cuban international combatants have carried out cooperative work for 14 years. At a reception held for the official Cuban delegation visiting Brazzaville, Sassou-Nguesso described this moment as important for the two nations, which have fought together for so many years.

Brigadier General (Victor Suarez Colas), along with other Revolutionary Armed Forces officers, are in the Congo to work out the schedule for the gradual withdrawal of the combatants who have been there for 14 years, at the request of the local government. (Colas) said that the Cuban internationalist combatants are concluding this

cooperation to usher in another stage, which will include other forms of joint cooperation. The necessary conditions for this are being created.

Raul Castro Tours Eastern Mountain Region

FL0104213091 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2032 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Text] Army General Raul Castro Ruz, second secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, has toured various sites of socioeconomic interest in the historic eastern mountains. During his tour, Raul observed the progress made under the influence of the transforming efforts of the men and women who are working with revolutionary ardor in defense, supporting the food program, and developing the Turquino Plan.

Accompanied by Interior Minister Lieutenant General Abelardo Colome Ibarra and alternate Politburo members Julian Rizo and Raul Michel Vargas, Raul visited several work places where he heard about the enormous efforts being made to fulfill production pledges. At Sabaneta University in Guantanamo Province he heard about the economic, political, and social implementation of the plans in the mountains.

Army General Raul Castro, and those accompanying him, visited the canning plant, the dehydration plant, the wine facility, and the chemical products combine located at the Agro-Forestry Enterprise in Sabaneta, Guantanamo. In Sagua de Tanamo Municipality, Holguin Province, the second party secretary visited the house of a farming family in Naranjo Agrio and held a fraternal conversation with those living there.

At a Youth Labor Army coffee-workers camp on Santo Domingo Farm, the general praised the exemplary work by these combatants and stressed that this is the moral force the mountains need. Mayari Arriba also witnessed the lengthy tour of the Second Eastern Front mountains made by Raul Castro and his delegation.

Czechoslovak Culture House in Havana Closes

PA2903152891 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0023 GMT 27 Mar 91

[Text] Havana, 26 Mar (NOTIMEX)—The Czechoslovak Culture House in Havana closed its doors to the public today because of the "different roads" both countries have taken, a top diplomatic official reported today.

Czechoslovak Ambassador Yaroslav Balaz announced in a news conference today that the 3,000 books at the culture house will be donated to the Jose Marti National Library.

Nearly 2,000 short and full-length films will be donated to the Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples (ICAP); they were shown at the Czechoslovak Culture House since its creation in 1962.

The Czechoslovak diplomat said the decision to close down the culture house responded to the will of the Cuban Government and the high costs of maintaining the cultural center.

Relations between Havana and Prague are going through their tensist moments in the last 30 years because the European country was the Cuban Government's diplomatic and consular representative in Washington during this time.

Balaz also said the Cuban Culture House in Prague also officially closed its doors today because the cultural agreement between both countries has not been renewed, which would have allowed the center to continue operations.

The diplomat said Cuba and Czechoslovakia are working to find formulas to maintain trade relations, but according to market rules.

URNG Envoy in Havana Views Dialogue Process

PA3103154491 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Mar 91

[Interview with Marco Tulio Gonzalez, member of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity delegation in Havana, by Ramon Chong at the station studio; date not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Chong] Hello friends, we have here at the Radio Havana studio Marco Tulio Gonzalez, a member of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG, delegation in Havana. How are you, Marco Tulio?

[Gonzalez] Very well, thank you. It is a pleasure to be on Radio Havana because of its worldwide audience and its closeness to all people.

[Chong] We want to discuss the complex peace dialogue between the guerrilla forces and the government in Guatemala. The process, which began in Oslo, is a year old. The URNG recently issued two statements on the development of the process, and Guatemalan President Jorge Serrano Elias has said that the dialogue is about to take place. What is the URNG's opinion?

[Gonzalez] We think President Serrano's remarks are a good sign, but we also see that this process has been obstructed. Our willingness to continue the Oslo process has not been matched by the government. We have proposed many dates to meet, but from President Serrano we have only heard public statements to the effect that the dialogue will be held and that a peace plan will be carried out. He has not indicated when and how this will be done.

[Chong] Has the URNG's request for the dialogue to be held publicly been rejected?

[Gonzalez] Yes, he recently said that it would be difficult for a dialogue to be held publicly. We think the best thing would be to hold it publicly and with witnesses from the United Nations and the National Reconciliation Commission, which have been working the hardest for this process to succeed.

[Chong] What issues have obstructed this year long process?

[Gonzalez] It has essentially been President Serrano's refusal to meet with the URNG. We have also felt pressure from the Army, which leads us to believe that there is a big

plot to try to blame the guerrillas for human rights violations and to tarnish the guerrillas' prestige to prevent the dialogue from taking place. We think these are the main obstacles obstructing the dialogue process.

CTC To Analyze Measures Against Delinquency

FL0104174091 Havana Radio Reloj Networks in Spanish 1507 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Text] The National Secretariat of the Cuban Workers Federation [CTC], presided over by top union leader Pedro Ross, has met and decided to launch an analysis of the measures taken against delinquency in several different sectors. The meeting agreed to discuss the document on delinquency approved during the recent 59th CTC National Council Plenum in all union centers across the country.

The newspaper TRABAJADORES has reported that to implement this resolution the measures will have to be tailored to the type and frequency of incidents in each area. The National Secretariat of the CTC also decided that the strictest implementation of these measures will follow the discussions at the union centers.

Rafael Rodriguez Meets With SELA Secretary

FL3003125591 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Mar 91

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has received Carlos Perez del Castillo, permanent secretary of the SELA, Latin American Economic System, who is in our country on a private visit.

An exchange of views took place during the meeting. They discussed the regional situation and the organization's actions aimed at promoting cooperation between Latin American and Caribbean countries, as well as the attainment of negotiated positions.

ICAP President Corrieri Visits Argentina

FL0204031591 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0055 GMT 2 Apr 91

[From the "Exclusivo" program]

[Text] Sergio Corrieri, president of the Cuban Institute for Friendship with the Peoples [ICAP], has attended a moving solidarity meeting in Buenos Aires. He will be visiting that city for several days. For more than two hours, Corrieri, who is a deputy of the National Assembly of the People's Government, responded to questions and concerns of the members of the Cuban-Argentine Friendship Association.

Inter-Caribbean Affairs

West Indian Economist on Political Integration

FL0104140591 Bridgetown CANA in English 2050 GMT 30 Mar 91

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, March 30, CANA—A member of the West Indian Commission, economist William Demas, has said that Caribbean nations must integrate economically and politically while improving ties with other countries. In the just-published "Towards West Indian Survival," the first in a series of West Indian Commission occasional papers, the governor of Trinidad and Tobago's Central Bank said:

"Because of our small and very small sizes and because of the economic difficulties now being experienced by some of the so-called bigger Caricom [Caribbean Common Market] (Caribbean Community) countries, some (both within and outside) the West Indies are of the view that we cannot make it on our own—that is to say, unless we singly or collectively become economically (and even politically) integrated in a highly dependent fashion with a "big brother" or a large economic grouping of developed countries....

"It cannot be repeated too often that the West Indies must integrate both economically and politically, and at the same time have close economic links with the other islands of the Caribbean Sea, while strengthening its present economic links with Europe, Canada, the United States, Latin America, and other Third World countries."

The former president of the Caribbean Development Bank said experience has shown that a united West Indies acting as a single unit can be a powerful force in international economic and political relations. On the issue of widening of the 13-member Caribbean Community, Demas said prime attention should be given to the deepening of Caricom, although there is growing urgency for the community as a group to widen by forging links with other islands of the Caribbean chain and Suriname. He also said closer economic relations with Latin American countries is a "must" for reasons of proximity and as part of the region's objective of diversifying its external economic relations.

The West Indian Commission, which is headed by former secretary-general of the Commonwealth, Sir Shridath Ramphael, is attempting to chart a course for the future of the West Indies through a process of consultation throughout the region.

Demas said the issue of air transportation with the regional airline, LIAT [Leeward Island Air Transport], must be resolved, "and the sooner the better." Government and travel industry officials have suggested the merger of LIAT and other Caribbean airlines to create a "super carrier." LIAT has been having financial problems.

Demas said said one weakness of Caricom is the lack of "teeth" and suggested that government heads could set up a standing Caricom treaty review commission to follow up on the implementation of decisions made by the organs and institutions of the community.

Dealing with approaches to regional economic integration, Demas said the two approaches to economic integration were market liberalisation and cooperation in production. He said barriers must be broken down which restricted trade in goods and services and flows of money and capital.

Dominica

Economic Growth, Structural Weakness Discussed

FL0104160091 Bridgetown CANA in English 1501 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, April 1, CANA--Expected growth of 4 per cent in the Dominica economy for 1990 has failed to dampen concerns about structural weakness in the economy, according to the latest edition of CANABusiness. "Something is probably structurally wrong with the whole economic framework. It is largely a dormant private sector," Alick Lazare, economic advisor to the Dominica Government, told the business and financial newsletter of the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY.

Dominica, described in the report as the "laggard" of Eastern Caribbean economies, followed three years of average 7 cent growth with a 2 per cent contraction in the economy in 1989. The expected 4 per cent growth in 1990 is mild given the level of development and small economic base, Lazare indicated.

Government officials suggest structural weakness is linked to private sector inexperience and largely distributive bias but the private sector wants more institutional supports for business and investment.

"Over 10 years you had a steady growth in domestic savings that should have led to private sector growth in investment, but you haven't had that response," Lazare said. He reported that inexperience of the sector was compounded by an underdeveloped financial system which more readily moved resources for consumer spending than other purposes. He recently suggested that government find a mix of state control and private sector-led growth until the sector is "able to accept risks involved."

Sheridan Gregoire, president of the Dominica Association of Industry and Commerce (DAIC), supports a government programme to establish a venture capital fund as a step in the direction of addressing the main constraints on the sector.

"If you are going to encourage investment you must ensure that the local development bank and similar institutions have the capacity to receive funds for on-lending to us.

"You export credit guarantee and export credit insurance schemes must be in place and strengthened," Gregoire said. The business leader also supported government efforts to promote foreign investment, but wants the local private sector's interest to be accommodated.

"We want to encourage foreign investment, but we want to be given the same level of encouragement as is given to the foreign investor," he said.

Meanwhile, guided by a study financed by the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-Operation (CFTC), the government has been talking with North American investors, seeking investment in a more organised and professional manner. The thrust is towards attracting more long-lasting investments than the "foot-loose" industries which tend to shut up shop after incentives expired or local labour began to lose its competitive attraction.

Haiti

Press Comments on Aristide's Youth Day Speech

FL0204090991 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1200 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Excerpt] President Jean-Bertrand Aristide's Youth Day speech on 24 March was highlighted as event of the week by the magazines, based on a perceived change in his attitude and language. The Aristide-Preval government seemed to change gears in committing itself to improve the living conditions of the poor in both the cities and the mountains. Aristide has taken a bold turn in rejecting the old system. Following is an excerpt from BALANCE magazine.

HAITI EN MARCHE has commented on the event. In an article entitled, Dignity March, The Youth Have Spoken, Aristide Operates [Aristide Ap Frape], the magazine makes a radiography [as heard] of the Sunday 24 March event. The government has changed tone; it has decided to speak louder. Why? Because despite its cautiousness and serenity, those with whom it is dealing do not yet seem to understand. Aristide is therefore obliged to speak louder this time, not only because his supporters are waiting for an answer to their demands, but also because they are ready to gird their loins for the radical changes they need. What they seek are moral comfort, material welfare, and social status.

HAITI-PROGRES has also expressed its opinion on the 24 March event, a day for young people when national pride and dignity were fused. According to the magazine owned by Ben Dupuy, Aristide has proven that he sleeps on the same pillow as that portion of the population he carries in his heart, Haiti's youth. The 24 March message was a militant speech, a sermon, in which Father Aristide showed his willingness to fight on despite threats and intimidations meant to keep Haitians living as the servants of big countries.

Furthermore, on page 3, HAITI EN MARCHE asks what game the Americans are playing today, a question related to the new measures Washington has announced, giving them more authority over Haitians caught on the high seas trying to escape to Miami. HAITI EN MARCHE considers this a mockery and asks who the Bush administration is trying to bluff. Is it a way to keep the government from encouraging Haitians to take to the sea, or is it a way to induce the avalanche government to disregard the treaty, which is now useless because since this government came to power, Haitian people have stopped leaving for Miami on small boats. So, the banning treaty has seemingly become null.

Regarding the relations between Haiti and the United States, HAITI-PROGRES hopes that people take the statements made by U.S. Ambassador Loaded Donkey [Bourik Chaje], Alvin P. Adams, on Radio Haiti-Inter, cautiously. His statements, arguing that the U.S. Government has no problem with the avalanche government, cannot be true unless Loaded Donkey has been converted to avalanche. However, the magazine has not forgotten the saying,

pumpkin trees do not produce calabash, or, it is by its fruits that you can identify a tree.

The comments in HAITI EN MARCHE are not substantially different from those of HAITI-PROGRES: We will believe it when we see it. [passage omitted]

New Public Administration Appointments Announced

FL0204010691 Port-au-Prince Radio Haiti-Inter in Creole 2100 GMT 28 March 91

[Text] The Ministry of Information, Culture, and Coordination announces, in a ministerial order dated 21 March, that new bank appointments have been made. The board of directors at the Bank of the Republic of Haiti is comprised of the following:

Roger Perodin was appointed governor and president of the bank; Dumas Benjamin is assistant governor and vice president; Monique Thebeaud is director general; Marie-Therese O. Narcisse and Vanel Joseph are members.

The board of directors at the National Credit Bank is as follows:

Raoul Nelson, president; Joseph Depestre, vice president; Danel Jacques, director general; Gesner Como and Jean-Rene Maurice, members.

In the same press release, the Ministry confirms other, previously-made appointments:

Andre Georges Lemercier, director general of the tax office; Jean-Paul Toussaint, engineer, director general of National Harbour Authorities; Frank Bonhomme, director general of the Service of Immigration and Emigration; Julien Pierre Renaud, assistant director general in the office of income taxes; Dukepson J. Extra, assistant director general of the Service of Immigration and Emigration; Franklin Stony, financial director at Haiti Flour Mill; Jacques Noressias, commercial director at Haiti Flour Mill; Newton Jeudi, medical doctor, director of the Institute of Social Welfare.

Such appointments in the public administration were announced in a press release from the Ministry of Information, based on a commission formed by the president of the Republic of Haiti.

Jamaica

Interim Governor General, Justices Inaugurated

FL0104184091 Bridgetown CANA in English 1740 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, April 1, CANA—Chief Justice of Jamaica, Edward Zacca, on Sunday night was sworn in as the island's interim governor-general following the retirement of Sir Florizel Glasspole. In a simple ceremony at the Kings House, official residence of the governor-general, Zacca pledged to "well and truly serve Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs, and successors." Zacca will hold the office until a replacement for Sir Florizel is found.

At the same ceremony, Justice Ira Rowe, president of the court of appeal, was sworn in as acting chief justice and Justice Boyd Carey, a judge of the court of appeal, was sworn in as acting president of the Court of Appeal.

Sir Florizel was lauded by all three judges for the "love, integrity, and dedication" he brought to the position of governor general. "You were a giant in some difficult years.... (and) absolutely fearless," said Zacca as he paid tribute to Sir Florizel.

The acting governor general has been chief justice of Jamaica since 1985. He was recently awarded one of the highest judicial honours when he was appointed as a bencher to the Middle Temple, one of the four Inns of Court in the United Kingdom. Born in St. Andrew on July 26, 1931, he is son of the late Wadie Zacca, merchant, and his wife Margaret. He attended Kingston College and was called to the bar at Middle Temple in February 1954. He did private practice at the Jamaican bar between 1954 and 1958 when he left to enter the government legal service.

He acted as clerk of the courts and was promoted a resident magistrate in 1960. He was named a pusine judge in 1968 and a judge of the Jamaican Court of Appeal in 1975.

An Anglican, he married Hope Margurite Haddad on October 19, 1958. He is the father of two sons and one daughter. He lists his hobbies as tennis, swimming, and gardening. Chief Justice Zacca has acted as governor general of Jamaica on many previous occasions.

Costa Rica

Nicaragua Lifts Limits on San Juan River Transit

PA0204005091 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1550 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Text] San Jose, 1 Apr (ACAN-EFE)—Security Minister Victor Herrera reported today that Costa Rica's free transit of the San Juan River, which borders Nicaragua, was normalized as of 31 March following contacts with Nicaragua.

The official spoke with a Sandinist officer, and soon thereafter restrictions against the transit of Costa Rican vessels on the river were lifted.

About a week ago, according to reports in San Jose, Nicaraguan Army officers began charging as much as $10 to allow tourist boats, or any other type of boat, to travel on the river.

However, border treaties stipulate that although Nicaragua has sovereign rights over the San Juan River, Costa Rica has free navigational rights "in perpetuity."

Herrera commented that he is not aware of the reasons why Nicaragua restricted Costa Rican rights over the river, but he hopes that it is all due to a misunderstanding by lower ranking army officers. He also added that today he will contact the Managua authorities and request an explanation concerning this issue.

Nicaragua

Students To March for Larger University Budget

PA0204021391 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Text] Various student organizations from different universities in the country are announcing a new march to the Government House tomorrow. The students want to exert pressure on the government to secure an increase in the university budget. As is known, the university budget was affected with the appearance of the gold cordoba and it is feared that the student tuition rate will be increased in the future.

University student leaders stated that during Holy Week a group of students staged a vigil in front of the National Assembly building to promote an increase in the budget. However, no new meeting has been planned between the government and the university rectors to reach an agreement.

Engineer Antonio Lacayo Oyanguren, who represents the government, said that there cannot be an increase in the university budget at the present time because the government lacks the necessary economic resources.

In the meantime, the rectors of the universities do not share the government's opinion that there are too many teaching and administrative personnel who drain the budget.

Panama

Firm Said Operating With Saddam Husayn's Assets

PA0104224091 Paris AFP in Spanish 1520 GMT 1 Apr 91

[All Arabic names as received]

[Text] Panama City, 1 Apr (AFP)—Panama's Public Registry today affirmed that Montana Management, Inc., headed by Iraqi citizen Adulstar Ali Alabbulah, is operating in this country with assets belonging to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

A Public Registry spokesman said that this company was established and registered by the law firm of Morgan and Morgan on 10 September 1984 with 100 $1,000 shares.

The registration entry shows Iraqi Mauwafak Abdul Karim as treasurer and Allaidin H. Alwan as secretary of Montana Management, Inc. Both of them reside in Baghdad, as does Alabbulah.

Montana Management, Inc. may operate in Panama or anywhere else in the world and may engage in any kind of business, contract, or transaction, the Public Registry spokesman added.

Mutual Legal Assistance Agreement To Be Signed

PA0104173991 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 1 Apr 91 p 1A

[Report by Zoila Rodriguez Jovane]

[Text] Official sources have reported that the Mutual Legal Assistance Agreement (MLAA), proposed to Panama by the United States, will be signed on 11 April by both governments.

After the Panamanian Government, businessmen, and bankers refused to approve a document that included articles on fiscal crimes, the United States agreed to eliminate the controversial articles.

The agreement that will be signed in the next few days by the two countries provides only for the exchange of information relating to drug trafficking and money laundering crimes.

During the first half of 1990, the United States conditioned the disbursement of $80 million, of the $420 million approved by the U.S. Congress, to the signing of this agreement.

Former FDP Members Cited on Wiretapping Issue

PA0204003791 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 1 Apr 91 p 1a

[Report by Juan Pritsiolas]

[Text] Manuel Antonio Noriega, who was a colonel in the G-2 at the time, started telephone espionage in Panama in the early 1970's with a rudimentary system under an individual known simply as "Mr. Otho," along with another G-2 member, Aristides Gonzalez.

According to former Panama Defense Forces [FDP] agents, the system consisted of bringing the cables of the lines that were going to be tapped to the G-2 installations.

This method proved to be very costly, and prompted Noriega to obtain sophisticated electronic equipment from the CIA in 1983, which he used to spy on the opposition's political campaign and detect problems surrounding the acceptance of Dr. Arnulfo Arias' presidential candidacy in the 1984 elections.

Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency under Noriega, was one of the main targets of the telephone tapping and this was how Noriega discovered that Solis rejected the presidential nomination of Dr. Arnulfo Arias. As a result, according to a source, the FDP later recruited Solis to the official ranks.

The issue of telephone tapping gained prominence over the past week after the media reported that the Public Security and National Defense Council, which is under the Presidency, is allegedly involved in activities of this sort.

This council has a $1.33 million budget, and its payroll includes analysts, electronic mechanics, computer operators, radio operators, security inspectors, and other administrative officials.

Although many criminal lawyers maintain that private telephone conversations are inviolable, in October, before the Legislative Assembly, Attorney General Rogelio Cruz said that telephone tapping is legal and constitutional as long as it is authorized by the Public Prosecutor's Office or an appropriate court.

Cruz also argued that the use of wiretaps to uncover crimes is universal. He added that Panama needs a better wording of the constitutional provision on this matter and the Legislative Assembly should approve a law to guarantee that it is appropriately applied.

Civic Crusade Sponsors ADOC Party Meeting

PA0204023291 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Text] A meeting moderated by the Civic Crusade was held on 1 April to seek a solution to the political squabblings among ADOC [Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance] member parties.

The meeting was held at the Panamanian Association of Business Executives' offices. The government parties were represented by four Christian Democratic Party [PDC] delegates, two Authentic Liberal Party delegates, two from Molirena [Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement], and one representing the Arnulfist Party.

The meeting was sponsored and mediated by Civic Crusade representatives Alberto Conte and Fernando Boyd. Moved by the current government crisis, caused primarily by political squabblings, Conte and Boyd decided to call the meeting on an urgent basis.

After nearly three hours of negotiations behind closed doors, a news conference reporting the outcome of the preliminary talks was held:

[Begin Conte recording] it has been decided to cast aside all party-related problems and to develop in-depth guidelines. Such an approach should lead to a solution to our most pressing problems, and this is what the people are expecting. [end recording]

The contents of the agenda were not released, but representatives of the various parties expressed optimism over the results of these talks. The talks will resume on 3 April at the same location.

[Begin recording] [PDC's Raul Ossa] There is obvious interest in finding solutions to the country's problems, and I believe that a proper solution can be found as interest in the problems continues to develop.

[Unidentified delegate] We are keeping to a work plan. We are not rushing things, but we are setting the agenda for the meeting without delay.

[Arnulufist Party's Hector Penalba] We should not only arrive at an agreement with the politicians but also at an understanding with the media. The media serve as the mouthpiece for politicians and such an understanding would sharpen their pencils and minds.

[Unidentified reporter] How will the Arnulfists end up vis-a-vis the PDC?

[Penalba] The Arnulfists must now be seen by the PDC as a party deserving respect. As the majority party we demand respect and we are headed toward an understanding. By this I do not mean political spoils, but a solution to the country's problems—an issue that is affecting the lives of the population. [end recording]

Judicial Technical Police Deputy Director Named

PA0104210891 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Text] In a news conference this morning, Government and Justice Minister Ricardo Arias Calderon announced the appointment of Jaime Abad Espinosa as the new deputy director of the Judicial Technical Police [PTJ].

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Just a few minutes ago Government and Justice Minister Ricardo Arias Calderon announced the appointment of the new PTJ deputy director. Abad is a criminal lawyer who specializes in police force administration and international terrorism. Abad replaces Lieutenant Renato Famiglietti, who, according to the minister, is now on vacation.

[Arias Calderon] This is part of the PTJ's overall renewal which is aimed at gaining the community's trust in the PTJ's services. The community's trust is essential if the PTJ is to do its duty. [end recording]

Bolivia

Coca Farmers To 'Forcibly Expel' U.S. Advisers

PY0104175691 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1642 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Text] La Paz, 1 Apr (EFE)—Peruvian and Bolivian coca-leaf farmers have agreed in La Paz to "forcibly expel" U.S. police and military advisers from the two Andean countries and to set up "self-defense patrols" to protect their crop, which is the raw material of cocaine.

This resolution was approved on 31 March after four days of discussions at the first meeting of Peruvian and Bolivian coca-leaf farmers. Colombian representatives had also been invited to the meeting but they did not arrive in La Paz.

According to one of the conclusions of the meeting, "U.S. advisers and military men must be forcibly expelled to protect the sovereignty of our countries."

The meeting also resolved to establish the Council for the Defense of Coca in Andean Countries [Consejo de Defensa de la Coca en los Paises Andinos]. This year the council will be presided over by Peruvian Gerardo Cahuna and Bolivian Romulo Cussi.

There are 25 DEA advisers in Bolivia helping out local antinarcotics forces and 56 U.S. military men are expected to arrive shortly to provide antidrug training to Bolivian military units.

The Peruvian Government has acknowledged the presence of some 20 DEA advisers, not including contract personnel.

"Self-defense patrols must be set up to fight the outrages of politicians and the DEA and to defend coca plantations in order to defeat the enemy in the field," coca farmers have said.

Peru and Bolivia produce 90 percent of the world coca-leaf harvest which is mostly processed into cocaine at clandestine laboratories in Colombia, where there are also a few coca-leaf plantations.

The representatives of the coca-leaf farmers harshly criticized the plans of the Bolivian Government to involve the Army in the antidrug struggle which so far has been in the hands of a 1,000-strong police unit. "The Armed Forces must be urged not to submit to economic extortion and attack the people, meekly playing into the hands of the Pentagon," according to one of final conclusions of the coca-leaf producers.

They state that the "militarization" of the antidrug struggle will generate violence in rural areas and will corrupt military commanders. Thus, they have decided to "resist compulsory military service in Bolivia and to struggle to put an end to it in Peru."

The farmers explained: "The manufacture and consumption of drugs responds to a demand and to the existence of consumers, not to the fact that there is a supply or to the existence of coca farmers who have been growing coca for 5,000 years."

According to estimates, 80 percent of the coca harvested in Peru and Bolivia is used to produce cocaine while the rest is used for medicinal purposes and to ease hunger and thirst [by chewing the leaves].

Coca farmers believe that the United States, the foremost consumer of cocaine, is looking at drug trafficking as a "domestic security" problem which according to the farmers "allows it to intervene anywhere in the world."

Brazil

Minister Says U.S. Pressure 'Blocking' Loans

PY0104153691 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Text] Economy Minister Zelia Cardoso de Mello will visit Japan on 6 and 7 April where she will attend the IDB [Inter-American Development Bank] annual meeting.

On this occasion, Minister Zelia Cardoso will denounce the pressure being exerted by the United States which is blocking IDB loans in an attempt to force Brazil to close deals with the creditor banks.

The minister said that because of the U.S. pressure, Brazil has failed to receive financial aid amounting to $350 million.

Army Ceases Operation on Colombian Border

PY0104165691 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 28 Mar 91 p 4

[Text] Colonel Flavio Teixeira, spokesman of the Amazonia Military Command, has said in Manaus that the Army operation in the Traira mountain range has ended.

A commission of the Colombian Government, which is investigating the identity of the seven Colombians killed in clashes with Brazilian military units, has reported that four of those killed were gold prospectors.

Teixeira said that the commission's findings "only concern the Colombian Government." The Army Social Communications Center has said that it is up to Itamaraty to report on this case, but no statement has yet been released.

Minister Fires Several Social Security Officials

PY3103001091 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2049 GMT 30 Mar 91

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 30 Mar (EFE)—Antonio Magri, labor and social security minister, today fired the administrative and financial director of social security, the directors of the Social Security and Revenue and Control Departments, and the man in charge of the commission investigating the multimillion dollar fraud uncovered in the social security system.

The decision was announced at a news conference in Brasilia after Minister Magri met with President Fernando Collor de Mello.

The Labor and Social Security Ministry and the Federal Police are carrying out an investigation of the social security system after a federal deputy in the opposition

reported the existence in Rio de Janeiro of 315 "privileged pensioners" who were receiving pensions of $4,000 to $61,000 per month.

After some of the pensioners included on the list denied having received those amounts, officials uncovered a gang headed by retired Lieutenant Colonel Ayrton Prat which was illegally cashing the pensions.

According to estimates made by Jose Arnaldo Rossi, president of the National Social Security Institute, fraud in the social security system is totaling about $696 million per month.

Chile

UDI Senator Jaime Guzman Shot in Santiago

PY0104232891 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Text] We now have more details on an attack perpetrated against Jaime Guzman, a senator for the Independent Democratic Union [UDI], who was taken to the Military Hospital 15 minutes ago.

The attack occurred shortly after 1830 this afternoon when Guzman was getting into his Mazda. The car has several bullet holes in it. Guzman was apparently shot in the right side; he was promptly taken to the Military Hospital, where he is now being treated. We will provide further details on this attack as they are available.

Details of Attack Reported

PY0204003291 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Text] Senator Jaime Guzman's condition is serious to very serious. Guzman was attacked by an individual wearing a beret as he left the Catholic University campus. The individual shot Guzman at point-blank range three times; two of the shots hit the senator in the abdomen. Guzman was sped to the Military Hospital, where he is being treated at this time.

It has been reported that the individual fled from the scene of the crime in a taxi in which other individuals were waiting. The taxi drove toward the eastern part of Santiago. Carabineros reported finding the taxi near Nunoa Square a few minutes ago. It has also been reported that the investigation is centering on the eastern section of the capital at this time.

Krauss Condemns Shooting

PY0204005891 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Graciela Contreras report from La Moneda Palace]

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Enrique Krauss said a few minutes ago that, because of the victim's character, the attack against UDI [Independent Democratic Union] Senator Jaime Guzman is totally condemnable.

He made this statement as he was leaving for the Military Hospital to learn more details about the condition of Jaime Guzman, who was shot this afternoon on leaving Catholic University's eastern campus. Guzman was wounded and had to be taken to the Military Hospital.

This is the dialogue the minister had a few minutes ago with reporters accredited to La Moneda.

[Begin Krauss recording] How do you expect us to react to such an absolutely condemnable action not only because of the personality of the victim, but also because the meaning it has for our pacification effort. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Senator Guzman Dies

PY0204022491 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0205 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Official communique read by Military Hospital Director Colonel Jara at the Military Hospital in Santiago—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] ...the death of Senator Jaime Guzman Errazuriz, may he rest in peace, while undergoing surgery after suffering bullet wounds that destroyed his liver and caused a serious lung condition. The injuries suffered by Senator Guzman were so serious that despite doctors' efforts, it was impossible to check a serious hemorrhage that resulted in hypovolemic shock, which caused his death. That is all. Thank you very much.

Caller Vows To Retaliate

PY0204023691 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0122 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Excerpts] Santiago, 1 Apr (EFE)—In an telephone call to the EFE office in Santiago, an anonymous caller threatened to take retaliatory action for today's attack on Senator Jaime Guzman of the Independent Democratic Union (UDI) and main leader of the right-wing opposition.

The telephone call was received at the EFE office at 2000 local time on 1 April (0000 GMT 2 April) and the message was conveyed by a male caller who did not identify himself.

"We will take retaliatory action from now on, following the attack on Senator Guzman," the caller said. He did not claim to speak for any group but shortly before hanging up, he said: "No reconciliation, no peace." [passage omitted]

Observers regard Guzman as one of the ideologues of the military regime that ruled Chile from 1973 to March 1990. He is also considered to be one of the leading political opposition leaders in accordance with a survey conducted in March by the Center for Contemporary Reality Studies, which is linked to the Catholic Church. [passage omitted]

Communist Party Condemns Attack

PY0204024691 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0158 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Text] The Communist Party has released a statement to the various mass media. The party strongly condemns the attack against Senator Jaime Guzman on 1 April.

The communique states: Our deep disagreements with Senator Guzman and our conviction about his inescapable responsibility for the drama that our people endured

during the tyranny are well known. This does not preclude us, however, from totally repudiating this terrorist action.

The communique goes on to state: In our opinion, this attack is part of an escalation of violent actions that have been unleashed since publication of the Rettig report. Such actions have sought to reduce the impact of truth on Chilean society and to inhibit the government and democratic forces in the quest for the necessary justice for the crimes that were committed by the Pinochet dictatorship.

The communique adds that there is an attempt to destabilize the democratic government and frustrate the transition.

This is part of a statement that the Communist Party has released to the Chilean media.

Government Expresses Sorrow

PY0204025691 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0223 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Declaration by Interior Minister Enrique Krauss from La Moneda Palace in Santiago—live]

[Text] In the name of the president of the Republic and the government we want to express our anguish and regret at the death of Senator Jaime Guzman Errazuriz. The death of any human being is naturally a source of sorrow, much more in circumstances like this because Senator Guzman was for many years an important participant in our national political life.

Jaime Guzman earned our respect beyond our differences. At this solemn moment we make a call for unity and pacification of the spirit—for which Guzman, from his own perspective, always fought. This is a call the government makes in full conscience. The president has personally called Senator Guzman's party, his family, and all his friends to express his solidarity in this tragedy, which undoubtedly affects democratic Chile and naturally, affects us all.

FPMR Claims Responsibility

PY0204050291 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0438 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Text] The Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR] has claimed responsibility for the attack on Senator Jaime Guzman last night. A person who identified himself as an FPMR spokesman called the media, including Television Nacional de Chile, and said that Jaime Guzman died by his own rules.

Aylwin Presides Over Security Committee Meeting

PY0204033291 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0257 GMT 2 Mar 91

[Report by Jose Ignacio Aguirre from La Moneda Palace]

[Text] We are in the room where the interior minister has released various government communiques after learning about the death of Senator Jaime Guzman.

A Security Committee meeting began approximately 15 minutes ago. In an exceptional move, the meeting is being presided over by President Patricio Aylwin. The other committee members are Interior Minister Enrique Krauss; Defense Minister Patricio Rojas; Minister Secretary General of Government Enrique Correa; Carabineros Deputy Director Raul Ormeno [as heard]; General Alfredo Nunez, Carabineros order and safety director; Army General Guido Riquelme, Santiago garrison commander; Air Garrison Commander Maximo Venegas; 1st Naval Garrison Commander Carrasco; and, exceptionally, Investigative Police Deputy Director Mario Mengozzi because investigative Police Director Horacio Toro is sick.

The meeting, which is being held in the western part of La Moneda Palace, must be addressing some of the measures that have already been announced, like accelerating the creation of a special antiterrorist unit to be made up of the organizations charged with that responsibility—Carabineros and the investigative police—and a request for the designation of a special judge to investigate this murder.

After this meeting, Interior Minister Enrique Krauss will release a communique on the resolutions that were adopted. It is not known how long this meeting will last.

Interior Minister Reports on Security Meeting

PY0204045891 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0402 GMT 2 Apr 91

[News conference with Interior Minister Enrique Krauss and unidentified reporters at La Moneda Palace following a Security Committee meeting chaired by President Patricio Aylwin—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Krauss] ...stemming from the unfortunate death of Senator Jaime Guzman Errazuriz. Measures adopted by our police organizations were analyzed, and the president reiterated the need to act as expeditiously and urgently as possible to clear up this attack.

In this regard, both Carabineros and Investigative Police officials reaffirmed their decision to take coordinated action in this area. The idea of setting up an inter-institutional operational unit, which will not become a new body but simply a unit for coordinating operations between the two institutions, was reaffirmed. The president ordered that expeditious action be taken to further the earlier steps by the two institutions and by the government itself.

We would also like to announce that the president ordered that, in accordance with the laws, the Interior Ministry issue a decree declaring 2 and 3 April days of official mourning in memory of and to pay tribute to Senator Jaime Guzman.

That's all I...

[Reporter, interrupting] [question indistinct]

[Krauss] None of those expressions will contribute to solving the specific problem, nor can they be considered an act of recognition or a tribute to the memory of Jaime Guzman, nor do they reflect the spirit I believe prevails among most Chileans as far as seeking peaceful formulas of coexistence is concerned.

[Reporter] Minister, the president of the National Renewal Party has publicly requested that President Aylwin suspend his trip to Europe due to this attack.

[Krauss] We do not believe that decision will be commensurate with what happened today. The president of the Republic will be making a state visit. Despite the grief and disturbance one may experience over the cowardly murder of Senator Guzman, this event cannot disrupt the normal functioning of state organizations. In this regard, the president of the Republic and his entire staff will continue to perform their duties, especially that of preventing situations similar to the one that caused Senator Guzman's death.

[Reporter] Have you discussed the possibility of declaring a state of emergency?

[Krauss] The subject was discussed, but all those attending the meeting thought that the current situation does not warrant the issuance of this measure.

[Reporter] Were new details given about the investigations?

[Krauss] The investigations are being conducted by police institutions, and actions in this regard are now under way, so there is no specific information to give at this time.

Colombia

Radio Galeon Transmitters, Equipment Destroyed

PA3103154291 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0112 GMT 31 Mar 91

[Report by Marta Milena Barrios]

[Text] A bomb destroyed the Radio Galeon transmitters in Gaira, near Santa Marta, last night. Station manager Rodrigo Ahumada will file a lawsuit against the government because it did not provide protection despite his appeals for security. Others say the attack was motivated by personal vengeance.

The transmitter towers have been partially destroyed twice. The first attack was five years ago and the second one was one year ago, but the 20 kgs of dynamite that were placed at 2000 yesterday destroyed everything: transmitters, electric board panels, FM receivers, monitors, air extractors, and equalizers. The total loss is over 120 million pesos. Station owner Rodrigo Ahumada said the attack was a result of the accusations he has been making over his newscasts.

[Begin Ahumada recording] I have been reporting on the sale of so-called scrap iron in government enterprises, which is not really scrap iron. I have been reporting on the immoral actions of some local radio stations, which have been playing along with the drug traffickers. I have been reporting on the immoral situation at the police, customs, and the tax collection offices. [end recording]

Ahumada, who is affiliated with the Liberal Party, is also the owner of Galeon Television, a subscriber of Telecaribe. He has kept the station on the air for 16 years and is now broadcasting on the FM band while he is able to rebuild the transmitters.

The first investigations carried out by the authorities attribute the attack to common criminals, who were hired to take revenge.

FARC Propaganda Documents Found in Uribe

PA2903184591 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1249 GMT 29 Mar 91

[Text] In the rainy season camps, abandoned by the secretariat of the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] central staff during the large-scale offensive launched by the Army in Uribe, Meta Department, state security agents found numerous documents that are being studied. These documents include one related to the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board [CNG] dealing with a local and international campaign to discredit the Colombian Army, Police, Air Force, Navy, and the state security agencies. The guerrillas would be reinforced and increase the number of armed actions. [as heard]

in other words, the CNG will increase its strength while speaking of peace, just as happened during the government of Belisario Betancur. The FARC initiated the peace process with 24 fronts and now have 57.

Peru

Antiterrorist Police Arrest U.S. Priest

PY0204051291 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0351 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Text] Lima, 1 Apr (EFE)—According to the Ica Archbishopric, Peruvian soldiers today arrested U.S. Catholic priest David Ritter and a group of local and neighborhood leaders in Nazca, 300 km south of Lima. An archbishopric spokesman told EFE that Ritter, 37, member of the Diocese of Jefferson, in New York, heads a parish in Nazca Province, which neighbors Ica.

"Ica Bishop Guido Brena has gone to the police precinct to try to obtain the release of Father Ritter" who was detained by the Counterterrorism Division (Dircote), the source added. The source said that in the early morning hours today Peruvian Air Force (FAP) soldiers carried out an operation in Nazca arresting the priest without informing him of the reasons "for the arbitrary measure."

In Lima, a communique released by the Human Rights Association (Aprodeh) said the soldiers also arrested Deputy Mayor Hector Montalvo, General Hospital Director Constantino Alvarado, and seven leaders of Nazca's Defense Front. Aprodeh says in the document that authorities did not specify the reason for the arrests and that the men were taken to Dircote on the orders of FAP platoon commander Pedro Palomino Horna.

A series of terrorist attacks took place in Nazca last year, prompting President Alberto Fujimori's government to decree a state of emergency in the area. The state of emergency includes the suspension of citizens rights.

Aprodeh protested the arrests and asked the government to lift the emergency measure because it opens the way for "excesses, persecutions, and aggression" by the security forces.

Military and police forces have arrested foreign religious people in the past. Two years ago in Huacho Province, north of Lima, security forces arrested Franciscan priests Lois Armandt and Jorge Ayulo Calderon, French and Spanish citizens, respectively. Armandt and Ayulo were freed a few days later after proving that they were not linked to any subversive group, contrary to police accusations that weapons and military uniforms were found in the vehicles they were driving.

Fujimori Appoints New Interior Minister

PY0104205091 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1950 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Text] Lima, 1 Apr (EFE)—Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori today appointed General Victor Malca Villanueva as the new interior minister, replacing General Adolfo Alvarado Fournier, whose departure has been demanded by various Peruvian sectors for several months.

The appointment of Malca Villanueva, who was chief of the 1st Military Region, based in the northern city of Piura, has brought to 11 the number of ministers changed since last October when, three months after his inauguration, Fujimori began a number of changes in his 14-man cabinet.

Gen. Alvarado's performance provoked controversy for the government with the political opposition, the press, the Catholic Church, and human rights organizations amid a wave of political violence that began 11 years ago and has already claimed over 21,000 human lives. The tense situation caused by the demands of police personnel for better pay added to the charges of negligence in the antisubversive struggle following terrorist attacks on U.S. interests in Peru during the Persian Gulf War and the destruction of an oil field owned by the U.S. company, Mobil Oil.

According to the Peruvian press, the U.S. State Department's negative report on the serious human rights situation in Peru brought about Gen. Alvarado's resignation. After three months of pressure, Fujimori decided to dismiss Alvarado following a recent attack on a Human Rights Commission attorney, who blamed the attack on Interior Ministry personnel, and following the prison escape of a notorious guerrilla leader—in that case, there were allegations of police negligence and bribery.

Interior Minister Sworn In

PY0204042091 Lima RTP Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 2 Apr 91

[Excerpts] President Alberto Fujimori today administered the oath of office to General Victor Malca Villanueva as new interior minister. The simple ceremony took place at government palace. The president said the new interior minister will continue the government strategy on subversion. [passage omitted]

Division General Victor Malca Villanueva, 51, belongs to the artillery branch. He graduated from the Chorrillos Military School in 1958. Later, he served as director of Army academic centers.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Do the latest cabinet changes indicate anything new? Will the government change its antisubversive strategy?

[Fujimori] No, the strategy is not something that can be changed on short notice. It is something planned for the middle and long term. We can naturally introduce adjustments, but the strategy has been clearly defined, as I said in my message. The new interior minister will continue the fight against subversion to get to the leadership of the Shining Path and the MRTA [Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement] [end recording]

* Fujimori's Governing Style, Advisers Assessed

* Personal Habits Detailed

91SM0227A Lima PERU ECONOMICO in Spanish XIV No 2 Feb 91 pp 3-5

[Excerpts] Government Palace is attempting to promote the image of a president who is affectionate with his children; who "pals around" with [his son] Kenyi; who loves fishing; who is austere, inscrutable, stubborn, and generous; and who is annoyed with the press for publishing stories about him and his advisers. Although he is a fan of French movies, his favorite film is "To Live," by the Japanese cinematographer Akira Kurosawa—the story of the final days of a man condemned to death. With no similarity at all, Fujimori "has lived" another film script since he took office as president of the Republic on 28 July 1990.

It is 0700. As he does every day, Alberto Fujimori is preparing to have his breakfast. Methodical and organized, the president begins each new working day after the five hours of sleep which are all he needs to remedy the fatigue of the preceding day. This is supplemented with the three hours of obligatory siesta after lunch. In this way, Fujimori manages eight hours of sleep per day.

Faithful to this discipline, which is his rule of life, the president of the Republic has other traditions at the Palace. He consumes nothing between meals; he neither smokes nor allows others to do so in his office; and, according to one member of his small circle of intimates, he does not often drink liquor—only juices, and he loves pineapple with orange—although occasionally he likes a good glass of wine with dinner. However, one of his staff members says that at certain gatherings, Fujimori will drink two or three whiskeys. Curiously enough, the image created of Alan Garcia at the beginning was also one of frugality, although time—and photographs—eventually proved it false.

It is 0730, and Fujimori goes down to his office. Even at this early hour, one is aware of the bureaucratic frenzy in the Palace environs. For some hours already, officials in the National Intelligence Service and his Press Office have been drafting reports on everything that might prove useful to the president.

One of his first actions in his office is to scan the headlines in the daily press. To speed up his reading, the Press Office prepares an analysis of the front-page articles and the editorials. They are color-coded on the basis of a scale ranging from "total support" (red) to "total disapproval"

(blue), to "indifference" (yellow). Thus Fujimori can begin to take the pulse of the day, as well as to continue to identify "friends" and "enemies." This reading is supplemented by the previous evening's recordings of the news from the various television channels, when he has been unable to watch them. Various sources agree that the daily newspaper LA REPUBLICA and the television program "Fuego Cruzado" [Crossfire] are his favorites. Curiously, both of these media units are linked with professional newsmen of Nisei origin—Alejandro Sakuda and Julio Higashi.

It is 0900. While the decibel level in the streets of the city spirals upward, Victor Diaz Lau, secretary general in the presidency and one of the few men who enjoy Fujimori's full confidence, is usually crossing the threshold of the president's office. This marks the beginning of the president's daily agenda, which was prepared the previous evening by Diaz Lau and Rosa Fujimori. His working day will not be interrupted until 1400, when he will break for lunch. Then, the inevitable siesta until 1700. And after that, Fujimori will begin work again, continuing until 0200 or 0300, very often working on his personal computer.

The University as Training

The main administrative experience gained by the president of the Republic was in the rectorate of the UNA [National Agrarian University] and as president of the National Assembly of Rectors. Unlike almost all of his predecessors, who were accustomed to managing politicians or soldiers, Fujimori managed professors. Perhaps because of this, his presidential administration is of an academic sort. His decisionmaking process involves a system of separate compartments, like departments or faculties, and the most important decisions are made in the office of the rector, not necessarily with the help of the heads of each academic department, but with the men he trusts.

Thus Fujimori's style of presidential administration depends on a small and discreet advisory group, which is the key element and the beginning and end point in any approach by the president to public affairs. In part, this is because Fujimori does not, as his predecessors did, have a simultaneous concern with the party and the state. It is a fact that Fujimori maintains no organic link with Cambio 90 [Change 90]. However, there are also personal reasons for this style of government.

Kenyo Fujimori's Circle

Following the pattern of the Nisei, Arab, or Andean immigrant who achieves a solid economic position and manages his affairs with the aid of his family, Fujimori brought his siblings Rosa and Santiago and his brother-in-law Victor Aritomi, all of whom hold posts of absolute trust, to the Palace. This group also includes two individuals of Chinese lineage—Diaz Lau and Jose Lay Su. They are responsible for the administrative procedures in the Office of the Presidency.

This notable range of advisers of oriental origin is believed to be dictated by cultural considerations. The president feels more confident when those around him are on the same frequency. "Faced with the obsessive confusion of politicians always concerned about 'other things,' Fujimori relies on his intuition, the product of his calm pursuit of the penetration of 'things themselves.' He is interested in differentiating essences, and for this reason he has relied on those who have shown they are capable of this differentiation," an individual close to him says.

Fujimori avoids metaphor and fanciful verbiage. His rhetoric, therefore, reflects the ingenuous sayings of popular wisdom. If he could express himself in proverbs, he would do so, and this temptation can be seen from time to time in some of his improvised statements. His vocabulary has no medium hues or nuances. It either succeeds or fails (something which is very Japanese, and even military).

Despite his fondness for chess, two individuals often present at the Palace maintain that Fujimori lacks long-range strategies, and that he acts, instead, spontaneously. He thereby leaves his flanks exposed and risks conflict with various sectors of society in his attempt to make use of the level of popularity he still enjoys.

Unlike Alan Garcia, whose advisers were quite visible, Fujimori's aides, on the express recommendation of the president, assiduously cultivate anonymity. Fujimori does not like his advisers to boast of the fact that they work for him. The fact is, according to those who have dealt with him, that he is bothered by strong personalities and prefers to be surrounded by colorless people. Unconditional loyalty is the key prerequisite for membership in this intimate group. The only exception to this norm is Hernando de Soto, who is valued by Fujimori because of his international prestige and his ability to provide him with proposals in various sectors (see box). [passage omitted]

The presidential advisers are arranged around Fujimori in three concentric circles, like academic departments. The first is made up of his siblings Santiago and Rosa, Carlos Orellana (Palace press secretary and author of some of the president's speeches and all of those of Susana Higushi de Fujimori), his brother-in-law Aritomi, and his secretaries Diaz Lau and Lay Su. This group is given assignments by Fujimori involving various tasks—minor and major, and it establishes the priorities, after consultation with the president. A minor example: they decided that one of the aides-de-camp assigned by the Navy was "too tall" for Fujimori. Santiago is the most powerful individual in this circle. Every important appointment requires his approval before it is assessed by Fujimori. For example, he made the decision on the recent appointment of the minister of transportation. However, other sources maintain that his sister Rosa has greater influence.

A second circle manages political and security affairs, and its best-known members are Vladimiro Montesinos and Luis Silva Santisteban. The latter is in charge of everything related to foreign policy, and he had enormous influence on the recent changes in the Foreign Ministry which led to the resignation of Luis Marchand. Others include Jorge Osorio and the businessman Victor Joy Way, with whom the president discusses economic affairs. Fujimori usually consults and discusses projects with these advisers even before commenting on them to the ministers with low profiles, such as, for example, those in charge of the

Ministries of Agriculture, Education, Justice, Interior, and Defense. However, sources close to Fujimori emphasize that the ministers with whom "he gets along best" are Fernando Sanchez Albavera and Guido Pennano.

In general, the president's relations with his ministers are distant. One of them was surprised when at the Council of Ministers meeting before Christmas, Fujimori asked each of the cabinet members "to tell a joke," a process which was filmed. The purpose, according to this same source, was supposed to be "to make a personality study."

Because of this whole complex scheme of advisers, the process of making decisions is rather slow, especially if a comparison is made with the styles of the president's predecessors Fernando Belaunde, and above all, Alan Garcia. According to one cabinet member, this is the reason for the excessive delay in many government decisions.

The president's philosophical attitude is the product of a symbiosis of the West and the East. In the West, the philosophy is strictly Cartesian, involving the processes of doubt and resolution. Fujimori tests and doubts, but then he reflects. However, sometimes reflection replaces—and delays—decision. Thus those who know Fujimori well are not surprised when he is slow in making decisions. For example, it took him four months to choose the name of the political group, Cambio 90, which would put him in the presidential office. Fujimori keeps absolutely silent before communicating what he feels. He listens without expressing any opinion, and then decides. His wife was the last to learn that he would run for the office of president of the Republic. But once he is convinced of something, it is most unlikely that he will retreat.

The following anecdote clearly illustrates the difficulty he has in making decisions. The reason that the traditional official photograph of the chief of state is not to be found in any ministry is neither modesty nor economy, but the fact that to date, and despite the fact that he has posed for two official portrait sessions, each lasting three hours, none of the dozens of enlarged photographs—wearing the sash, in a worsted suit of dark color, serious or smiling—has satisfied him. "He wants a less formal photograph, in which he looks less presidential," a source close to Palace circles says. Meanwhile, the public offices await his decision.

* Brother's Influence Noted

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[Excerpts] When Alberto Fujimori was president-elect, his younger brother, Santiago Fujimori Fujimori (the second of the quintet), began to play a role of the greatest importance in the triumphal candidate's circle. Since June of 1990, any project, proposal or interview sought has been screened by Santiago, who has become the new president's trusted aide. Since the president's installation in Government Palace, the role and the proximity of Santiago have remained the same, and currently he is one of the individuals who has the greatest influence with the secretive president of the Republic.

In the opinion of some, he is a kind of power in the shadows. And he shares that role with the other individuals who make up the president's inner circle. As defined by a source close to Government Palace, "Santiago is a kind of guardian angel for President Fujimori, who places great confidence in him, and in his legal advice, above all." [passage omitted]

Those who know him say that he is calm in nature, less serious than his brother Alberto but equally reserved, although not as impenetrable as the president. He likes the countryside and the sea, and although he shares the chief executive's fondness for fishing, he prefers recreation on the beach. He lives in San Borja, in the area where his brother made his first real estate investments, near the Wisconsin Academy. [passage omitted]

His work with President Fujimori involves a review of all the proposals and projects concerning foreign investments received by or of interest to the Peruvian government.

Currently, on the direct orders of the president, he is coordinating the projects being developed by the Conite [National Commission for Foreign Investments and Technology] to promote foreign investment. Also, Santiago expresses his opinion on a number of top-level decrees and ministerial resolutions before they go to the president of the Republic for approval, and various appointments of key officials and technicians are screened by the president's brother.

Since President Fujimori has adopted the custom of seeking the legal opinions of major scholars in Lima, Santiago Fujimori is in charge of coordinating the consultations with the scholars—Echecopar, Rodrigo, Elias y Medrano, and Navarro Grau (the brother-in-law of Hurtado Miller), among others, as well as some of his advisers, including Roberto McLean, who was his professor and was recently recommended by Santiago for the post of Peruvian ambassador in Washington.

Finally, one of his most important tasks is meeting with the president on the day before each Council of Ministers session—in other words, Thursday—to confer from midday until 1400 or 1500. He is currently arranging President Fujimori's planned trip to Europe.

Attracting Investments

President Fujimori seems to have taken the need to attract foreign investment seriously, and to achieve this goal, he has entrusted the Conite with the preparation of a draft foreign investment development and promotion law, which will be submitted to the Congress as an executive branch initiative. The idea is to establish concrete and stable rules to promote confidence in investors. The draft law is being developed by the jurist Jorge Muniz, who served as vice minister of fishing in the first of the present government's cabinets. He is also a professor at the Catholic university, and he enjoys widespread prestige.